

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN MAYOR

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> > October 8, 2007

ROBERT J. HUNTER
COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Dear City of Atlanta Water Customer:

On September 28, 2007, extreme drought conditions throughout Georgia prompted the Director of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to declare Drought Response Level Four restrictions in 61 northern counties, including the City of Atlanta and all of Fulton County. This is essentially a ban on all outdoor watering.

Cities, counties and water utilities throughout Georgia have the authority and responsibility to enforce these rules. In addition, the City of Atlanta's Water Use Restrictions Ordinance, Atlanta City Code Sec. 154-73 et seq. grants authority to the Commissioner of the Department of Watershed Management to enforce city and state water use rules.

The City of Atlanta Watershed Management Department will be monitoring the illegal use of water. After an initial written warning, customers will receive escalating administrative penalties (\$100, \$500 and \$1,000).

All exceptions to the total outdoor watering ban are listed on the enclosed pages and on the following websites:

www.atlantawatershed.org/waterrestrictions.htm www.gaepd.org/Documents/outdoorwater.html www.conservwatergeorgia.net

Exceptions do not include fountains (including those that re-circulate water), athletic fields, swimming pools or most other uses. If you feel that you qualify for an exemption, you must provide adequate proof and documentation (for example, an invoice from a licensed professional landscape contractor with date of installation of new plant materials.) This information can be noted on your account if you will fax a copy of the documentation to the Dept. of Watershed Management: Fax # 404 658-7194 Attn: M. Langston.

To report illegal watering, please call 404-982-1414 and leave the address, time and date and nature of the violation.

We are experiencing a drought of historic magnitude, one of the worst since this type of data has been recorded. It is a very serious matter, and we must all come together to protect and conserve our limited water resources.

Thank you for doing your part to conserve water and protect the environment.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Hunter Commissioner



City of Atlanta Watering Restrictions

Atlanta area residents whose water/sewer bills come from the City of Atlanta are subject to the following watering restrictions until further notice:

All outdoor watering is prohibited, with the exception of the following. Legal watering must be between the hours of 12:01 am and 10 am.

Exemptions

The following uses are exempted from the watering restrictions:

Irrigation of personal food gardens

Landscaping that has been in place less than 30 days can be watered any day of the week from Midnight to 10 am

Golf course irrigation using reclaimed wastewater from a system permitted by the State Environmental Protection Division to provide reclaimed wastewater

Irrigation of golf course tees

Irrigation of golf course greens

Irrigation contractors can water during installation of irrigation systems and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustments of irrigation systems and equipment Sod producers

Ornamental growers

Fruit and vegetable growers

Retail garden centers

Hydro-seeding

Power-washing

Construction sites

Commercial car washes

Producers of food and fiber

Other activities essential to daily business

Watering-in of pesticides and herbicides on turf

Capture and re-use of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable local ordinances.

Re-use of gray water in compliance with applicable local ordinances

Use of reclaimed wastewater by a designated user from a system permitted by the Department of Watershed Management to provide reclaimed wastewater for landscape irrigation